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| 10/802,769  | 03/18/2004  | Tohru Harada         | 250617US2           | 4671             |
| 22850 7590 12/23/2008<br>OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.<br>1940 DUKE STREET<br>ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314 |             |                      |                     |                  |
| EXAMINER<br>MORRISON, JAY A   |             |                      |                     |                  |
| ART UNIT  |             | PAPER NUMBER         |                     |                  |
| 2168  |             |                      |                     |                  |
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**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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### Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/802,769

**Applicant(s)**

HARADA ET AL.

**Examiner**

JAY A. MORRISON

**Art Unit**

2168

**Period for Reply** -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 September 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 6-10, 12, 14, 16, 17, 19 and 20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 6-10, 12, 14, 16, 17, 19 and 20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 10/10/08 has been entered.

### ***Remarks***

2. Claims 1-4, 6-10, 12, 14, 16, 17, 19 and 20 are pending.

### ***Specification***

3. The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. See 37 CFR 1.75(d)(1) and MPEP § 608.01(o). Correction of the following is required: as per claim 14, the term "computer-readable recording medium" is not found in the specification with sufficient specificity to determine the metes and bounds of the claim.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101***

4. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

5. Claims 8-10 and 16-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. These claims disclose a system or apparatus but do not describe hardware which executes each of the claimed steps, which is required for a system claim to be statutory. Accordingly, these claims are rejected as non-statutory for failing to disclose such hardware.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

6. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

7. Claims 1, 8, 12, 14, and 19-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential steps, such omission amounting to a gap between the steps. See MPEP § 2172.01. The omitted steps are: how the “starting of the program on the information processing apparatus is allowed by the program-addition file” and “starting of the program on the information processing

apparatus is allowed by the program-addition file" when the file is simply passive data and cannot perform an active function such as the claimed allowing.

8. Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential steps, such omission amounting to a gap between the steps. See MPEP § 2172.01. The omitted steps are: how the "starting of the program on the information processing apparatus is allowed by the program-addition file" when the file is simply passive data and cannot perform an active function such as the claimed allowing.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

9. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

10. Claims 1-4, 6-10, 12, 14, 16, 17, 19 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Paradinas et al. ('Paradinas' hereinafter) (Publication Number 2002/0116478) in view of Shields et al. ('Shields' hereinafter) (Publication Number 2003/0225797) and further in view of Albertao (Publication Number 2005/0120106).

As per claim 1, Paradinas teaches

A file creation method which creates a program-addition file for adding a program to a program-initiation recording medium of an information processing apparatus, comprising the steps of: (see abstract and background)

acquiring identification information of the program-initiation recording medium (description when card connected, paragraph [0041]) in response to a program adding

request received from a computer terminal connected to the information processing apparatus via a network; (request from device to install from card, paragraph [0049], lines 5-13; over network, paragraph [0060], lines 18-22)

and creating a program-addition file in response to the identification information so that starting of the program on the information processing apparatus is allowed by the program-addition file with the program stored in the program-initiation recording medium. (description and application stored on the smart card to be executed when smart card connected to device, paragraphs [0039]-[0041])

Paradinas does not explicitly indicate "and model identification of the information processing apparatus" nor "and the model identification".

However, Shields discloses "and model identification of the information processing apparatus" and "and the model identification" (model number, paragraph [0047], lines 8-12).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Paradinas and Shields because using the steps of "and model identification of the information processing apparatus" and "and the model identification" would have given those skilled in the art the tools to improve the invention by allowing different actions to be performed based on the model number of devices. This gives the user the advantage of being able to take advantage of features of their particular device.

Neither Paradinas nor Shields explicitly indicate "the program-addition file comprises a program file, an electronic signature of the program file, a configuration file,

and an electronic signature of the configuration file, so that starting of the program on the information processing apparatus is allowed by the program-addition file with the program stored in the program-initiation recording medium."

However, Albertao discloses "the program-addition file comprises a program file, an electronic signature of the program file, a configuration file, and an electronic signature of the configuration file" (executable file and configuration file with each file signed in package, paragraph [0079], lines 5-15), "so that starting of the program on the information processing apparatus is allowed by the program-addition file with the program stored in the program-initiation recording medium" (package not valid, paragraph [0090], lines 5-10).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Paradinas, Shields and Albertao because using the steps of "the program-addition file comprises a program file, an electronic signature of the program file, a configuration file, and an electronic signature of the configuration file, so that starting of the program on the information processing apparatus is allowed by the program-addition file with the program stored in the program-initiation recording medium" would have given those skilled in the art the tools to improve the invention by allowing for securely and reliably distributing software updates to devices. This gives the user the advantage of being insured that they have updates which have not been compromised.

As per claim 2, Paradinas teaches



the step of transmitting the program-addition file to the information processing apparatus via a network. (paragraph [0024])

As per claim 3, Paradinas teaches  
the step of storing the program-addition file in a program-addition recording medium (paragraph [0040])

which is used for the addition of the program to the program-initiation recording medium. (Minton v. Nat 'l Ass'n of Securities Dealers, Inc., 336 F.3d 1373, 1381, 67 USPQ2d 1614, 1620 (Fed. Cir. 2003) "whereby clause in a method claim is not given weight when it simply expresses the intended result of a process step positively recited." Examples of claim language, although not exhaustive, that may raise a question as to the limiting effect of the language in a claim are: (A) "adapted to" or "adapted for" clauses; (B) "wherein" clauses; and (C) "whereby" clauses. Therefore intended use limitations are not required to be taught, see MPEP § 2106 Section II(C), MPEP 2111.04 [R-3])

As per claim 4, Paradinas teaches  
in the acquiring step, the identification information is acquired from a predetermined information provider device. (paragraph [0055])

As per claim 6, Paradinas teaches

the creating step comprises: acquiring the program file, the electronic signature of the program file, and the configuration file; (paragraphs [0039]-[0041])

and creating a second electronic signature of the configuration file based on the identification information of the program-initiation recording medium and the acquired configuration file. (paragraphs [0039]-[0041])

As per claim 7, Paradinas teaches

the program file, the electronic signature of the program file, and the configuration file are acquired from a predetermined information provider device. (paragraph [0055])

As per claims 8-9,

These claims are rejected on grounds corresponding to the arguments given above for rejected claims 1-2 and are similarly rejected.

As per claim 10, Paradinas teaches

a file transmitting unit transmitting the program-addition file to a computer terminal in which the program-addition file is stored in a program-addition recording medium. (paragraphs [0039]-[0041])

As per claim 12, Paradinas teaches

A computer terminal which stores a program-addition file in a program-addition recording medium, the program-addition file being used to add a program to a program-initiation recording medium of an information processing apparatus, the computer terminal comprising: (see abstract and background)

an information transmitting unit transmitting, to a server, a program adding request, which causes the server to acquire identification information of the program-initiation recording medium (description when card connected, paragraph [0041]) in response to the program adding request (request from device to install from card, paragraph [0049], lines 5-13; over network, paragraph [0060], lines 18-22);

a file receiving unit receiving, from the server, a program-addition file which is created by the server in response to the identification information so that starting of the program on the information processing apparatus is allowed by the program-addition file with the program stored in the program-initiation recording medium; (description and application stored on the smart card to be executed when smart card connected to device, paragraphs [0039]-[0041])

and a file storing unit storing the received program-addition file into the program-addition recording medium. (communication protocol, paragraph [0049])

Paradinas does not explicitly indicate "and model identification of the information processing apparatus" nor "and the model identification".

However, Shields discloses "and model identification of the information processing apparatus" and "and the model identification" (model number, paragraph [0047], lines 8-12).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Paradinas and Shields because using the steps of “and model identification of the information processing apparatus” and “and the model identification” would have given those skilled in the art the tools to improve the invention by allowing different actions to be performed based on the model number of devices. This gives the user the advantage of being able to take advantage of features of their particular device.

Neither Paradinas nor Shields explicitly indicate “the program-addition file comprises a program file, an electronic signature of the program file, a configuration file, and an electronic signature of the configuration file, so that starting of the program on the information processing apparatus is allowed by the program-addition file with the program stored in the program-initiation recording medium.”

However, Albertao discloses “the program-addition file comprises a program file, an electronic signature of the program file, a configuration file, and an electronic signature of the configuration file” (executable file and configuration file with each file signed in package, paragraph [0079], lines 5-15), “so that starting of the program on the information processing apparatus is allowed by the program-addition file with the program stored in the program-initiation recording medium” (package not valid, paragraph [0090], lines 5-10).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Paradinas, Shields and Albertao because using the steps of “the program-addition file comprises a program file, an electronic signature of

the program file, a configuration file, and an electronic signature of the configuration file, so that starting of the program on the information processing apparatus is allowed by the program-addition file with the program stored in the program-initiation recording medium" would have given those skilled in the art the tools to improve the invention by allowing for securely and reliably distributing software updates to devices. This gives the user the advantage of being insured that they have updates which have not been compromised.

As per claim 14,

This claim is rejected on grounds corresponding to the arguments given above for rejected claim 1 and is similarly rejected.

As per claim 16, Paradinas teaches

An information processing apparatus which adds a program to a program-initiation recording medium by using a program-addition recording medium in which a program-addition file for adding the program to the program-initiation recording medium is stored, the information processing apparatus comprising: (see abstract and background)

a recording-medium detection unit detecting the program-addition recording medium in which the program-addition file is recorded; (communication protocol, paragraph [0049])

and a program addition unit performing an authentication check of the program-addition file read from the program-addition recording medium, and adding the program to the program-initiation recording medium according to a result of the authentication check. (description and application stored on the smart card to be executed when smart card connected to device and authentication, paragraphs [0039]-[0041], [0055])

Paradinas does not explicitly indicate "based on model identification of the information processing apparatus".

However, Shields discloses "based on model identification of the information processing apparatus" (model number, paragraph [0047], lines 8-12).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Paradinas and Shields because using the steps of "based on model identification of the information processing apparatus" would have given those skilled in the art the tools to improve the invention by allowing different actions to be performed based on the model number of devices. This gives the user the advantage of being able to take advantage of features of their particular device.

Neither Paradinas nor Shields explicitly indicate "the program-addition file comprises a program file, an electronic signature of the program file, a configuration file, and an electronic signature of the configuration file, so that starting of the program on the information processing apparatus is allowed by the program-addition file with the program stored in the program-initiation recording medium."

However, Albertao discloses "the program-addition file comprises a program file, an electronic signature of the program file, a configuration file, and an electronic

signature of the configuration file" (executable file and configuration file with each file signed in package, paragraph [0079], lines 5-15), "so that starting of the program on the information processing apparatus is allowed by the program-addition file with the program stored in the program-initiation recording medium" (package not valid, paragraph [0090], lines 5-10).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Paradinas, Shields and Albertao because using the steps of "the program-addition file comprises a program file, an electronic signature of the program file, a configuration file, and an electronic signature of the configuration file, so that starting of the program on the information processing apparatus is allowed by the program-addition file with the program stored in the program-initiation recording medium" would have given those skilled in the art the tools to improve the invention by allowing for securely and reliably distributing software updates to devices. This gives the user the advantage of being insured that they have updates which have not been compromised.

As per claim 17, Paradinas teaches

when there are two or more program-initiation recording mediums, the program addition unit displays a screen to select one of the program-initiation recording mediums, and adds the program to the selected program-initiation recording medium. (paragraph [0025])

As per claim 19, Paradinas teaches

A program addition system comprising: (see abstract and background)

a server which creates a program-addition file for being stored in a program-addition recording medium; (application developed and stored as executable code, paragraphs [0039]-[0040])

and an information processing apparatus which adds a program to a program-initiation recording medium by using the program-addition recording medium, (application stored on smart card, paragraphs [0039]-[0040])

wherein the server is configured to acquire identification information of the program-initiation recording medium, in response to a program adding request received from a computer terminal connected to the information processing apparatus via a network, and to create a program-addition file in response to the identification information, so that starting of the program on the information processing apparatus is allowed by the program-addition file with the program stored in the program-initiation recording medium, (description and application stored on the smart card to be executed when smart card connected to device, paragraphs [0039]-[0041]; request from device to install from card, paragraph [0049], lines 5-13; over network, paragraph [0060], lines 18-22)

wherein the information processing apparatus is configured to detect the program-addition recording medium in which the program-addition file is recorded, (communication protocol, paragraph [0049]) to perform an authentication check of the program-addition file read from the program-addition recording medium, and to add the



program to the program-initiation recording medium according to a result of the authentication check. (description and application stored on the smart card to be executed when smart card connected to device and authentication, paragraphs [0039]-[0041], [0055])

Paradinas does not explicitly indicate "and model identification of the information processing apparatus" nor "and the model identification".

However, Shields discloses "and model identification of the information processing apparatus" and "and the model identification" (model number, paragraph [0047], lines 8-12).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Paradinas and Shields because using the steps of "and model identification of the information processing apparatus" and "and the model identification" would have given those skilled in the art the tools to improve the invention by allowing different actions to be performed based on the model number of devices. This gives the user the advantage of being able to take advantage of features of their particular device.

Neither Paradinas nor Shields explicitly indicate "the program-addition file comprises a program file, an electronic signature of the program file, a configuration file, and an electronic signature of the configuration file, so that starting of the program on the information processing apparatus is allowed by the program-addition file with the program stored in the program-initiation recording medium."

However, Albertao discloses "the program-addition file comprises a program file, an electronic signature of the program file, a configuration file, and an electronic signature of the configuration file" (executable file and configuration file with each file signed in package, paragraph [0079], lines 5-15), "so that starting of the program on the information processing apparatus is allowed by the program-addition file with the program stored in the program-initiation recording medium" (package not valid, paragraph [0090], lines 5-10).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Paradinas, Shields and Albertao because using the steps of "the program-addition file comprises a program file, an electronic signature of the program file, a configuration file, and an electronic signature of the configuration file, so that starting of the program on the information processing apparatus is allowed by the program-addition file with the program stored in the program-initiation recording medium" would have given those skilled in the art the tools to improve the invention by allowing for securely and reliably distributing software updates to devices. This gives the user the advantage of being insured that they have updates which have not been compromised.

As per claim 20, Paradinas teaches

A program addition system comprising: (see abstract and background)

a server which creates a program-addition file for being stored in a program-addition recording medium; (application developed and stored as executable code, paragraphs [0039]-[0040])

and an information processing apparatus which adds a program to a program-initiation recording medium by using the program-addition recording medium, (application stored on smart card, paragraphs [0039]-[0040])

wherein the server is configured to acquire identification information of the program-initiation recording medium, in response to a program adding request received from a computer terminal connected to the information processing apparatus via a network, and to create a program-addition file in response to the identification information, so that starting of the program on the information processing apparatus is allowed by the program-addition file with the program stored in the program-initiation recording medium, (description and application stored on the smart card to be executed when smart card connected to device, paragraphs [0039]-[0041]; request from device to install from card, paragraph [0049], lines 5-13; over network, paragraph [0060], lines 18-22)

wherein the information processing apparatus is configured to receive the program-addition file from the server, (communication protocol, paragraph [0049]) to perform an authentication check of the received program-addition file, and to add the program to the program-initiation recording medium according to a result of the authentication check. (description and application stored on the smart card to be

executed when smart card connected to device and authentication, paragraphs [0039]-[0041], [0055])

Paradinas does not explicitly indicate “and model identification of the information processing apparatus” nor “and the model identification”.

However, Shields discloses “and model identification of the information processing apparatus” and “and the model identification” (model number, paragraph [0047], lines 8-12).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Paradinas and Shields because using the steps of “and model identification of the information processing apparatus” and “and the model identification” would have given those skilled in the art the tools to improve the invention by allowing different actions to be performed based on the model number of devices. This gives the user the advantage of being able to take advantage of features of their particular device.

Neither Paradinas nor Shields explicitly indicate “the program-addition file comprises a program file, an electronic signature of the program file, a configuration file, and an electronic signature of the configuration file, so that starting of the program on the information processing apparatus is allowed by the program-addition file with the program stored in the program-initiation recording medium.”

However, Albertao discloses “the program-addition file comprises a program file, an electronic signature of the program file, a configuration file, and an electronic signature of the configuration file” (executable file and configuration file with each file

signed in package, paragraph [0079], lines 5-15), "so that starting of the program on the information processing apparatus is allowed by the program-addition file with the program stored in the program-initiation recording medium" (package not valid, paragraph [0090], lines 5-10).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Paradinas, Shields and Albertao because using the steps of "the program-addition file comprises a program file, an electronic signature of the program file, a configuration file, and an electronic signature of the configuration file, so that starting of the program on the information processing apparatus is allowed by the program-addition file with the program stored in the program-initiation recording medium" would have given those skilled in the art the tools to improve the invention by allowing for securely and reliably distributing software updates to devices. This gives the user the advantage of being insured that they have updates which have not been compromised.

### ***Response to Arguments***

11. Applicant's arguments filed 9/9/08 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues that neither Paradinas nor Shields disclose that the program addition file includes "a program file, an electronic signature of the program file, a

configuration file, and an electronic signature of the configuration file". Respectfully, it is noted that the newly added Albertao reference discloses these limitations. Therefore, Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-4, 6-10, 12, 14, 16, 17, 19 and 20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Conclusion***

12. The prior art made of record, listed on form PTO-892, and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jay A. Morrison whose telephone number is (571) 272-7112. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tim Vo can be reached on (571) 272-3642. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Tim T. Vo/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2168

Jay Morrison  
TC2100

Tim Vo  
TC2100